

SCHOOLMASTERS TO MEET NEXT MONTH

Meeting to Have Been Held Friday Night at the Loyal Postponed for a Month.

WIRES LAID FOR CLUB MEMBER

All is not ready for the announcement of the Nebraska Schoolmasters' club's candidate for state superintendent...

Perhaps, as far as open discussion from the floor is concerned, there will even then be little discussion of proposed candidates...

Up to something over a year ago this body was known as a famously closed school corporation with the membership limited to twenty-five people.

The ballots were counted at the election and it was found that neither the democratic nor the republican candidate for state superintendent...

The membership was raised first to seventy-five and then to 100 active members. This raising of the number of members came in the form of a kind of tie-raising...

Disposing of Book Agents. Their votes are as good as any in fall elections and their political influence is good, so long as the whispering dictators can keep them in line...

It was some years ago that a little row occurred and a new set of rules was made. Over the transom went the book agents, but in theory only...

But others, knowing more about the machinery and being closer to the whispering circle, sat tight. And so the constitution reads: 'An active member shall be one who is actively engaged in public or private school work in the state...

And then the roster, of which few are circulated publicly, contains the names in the active column of a book company man who taught one term of school sixteen years ago...

A salesman of a Chicago publishing company also holds an active membership and has his ear close to the whispering circle.

Then there are the salesmen from three other publishing houses, who know not how to whisper and get close to the inside circle, and so they are content with associate memberships.

Still Buying Books. Meantime the school boards of the state are buying books freely and depending upon the judgment and dictation of the superintendent as to which company to patronize.

Naturally then among the bookmen there is a merry battle for favor with the whispering circle, or the wheel within the wheel of the Schoolmasters' club.

To elect a state superintendent partial to one or two book companies is of course considered a master stroke by the companies.

Following is the active membership of the club as it stands at present: N. C. Abbott, Nebraska City; R. J. Barr, Grand Island; C. F. Beck, Peru; W. G. Bishop, University Place; W. L. Bodwell, Beatrice; O. R. Bowen, Wayne; H. E. Bradford, State Agricultural College; Lincoln; W. G. Brooks, Plattsmouth; W. Caldwell, University of Nebraska; Samuel Avery, chancellor of the University of Nebraska; H. M. Campbell, Columbus; L. C. Calves, Kearney; R. V. Clark, State Industrial school, Kearney; W. H. Clemons, Lincoln; M. C. Cline, Nebraska City; Fremont; A. R. Condon, Fremont; U. S. Conny, Wayne; H. C. Craig, Central City; M. E. Crosier, Norfolk; Irving Curtis, Dept. of the University College of Medicine; R. Supply house; A. H. Dixon, Tekamah; H. M. Eaton, Emerson; A. E. Fisher, Aurora; W. K. Fowler, salesman for the Nebraska School Supply house, Lincoln; L. I. Fries, Nebraska University; C. A. Fulmer, chancellor Western university; W. H. Gardner, county superintendent, Lincoln; Paul Giron, Holdrege; E. U. Graf, Omaha; Y. M. Graham, Omaha; H. H. Gregory, Crete; H. H. Hahn, Wayne; D. W. Hayes, Peru; A. F. Hillier, Beatrice; Fred M. Hunter, Lincoln; D. E. Johnston, Omaha; L. J. Knoll, West Point; B. R. Macee, David City; J. J. Marshall, Lincoln; George E. Martin, Lincoln; J. E. Mumford, Beatrice; Martin, Broken Bow; J. F. Mathews, Grand Island; V. G. May, Lincoln; E. L. Meyer, Geneva; S. S. Rife, Tekamah; W. H. Morton, Fairbury; J. E. Mumford, salesman for Ginn & Co.; W. R. Pate, Blunton; N. S. Rife, Tekamah; A. A. Reed, high school inspector, state university; Lincoln; H. H. Richmond, St. Paul; E. L. Rouse, Peru; State normal; W. P. Stockdale, Chadron; W. W. Stoner, York; V. L. Strickland, Tecumseh; A. V. Teed, Lincoln; George L. Towne, editor Nebraska Teacher; C. N. Walton, Wahoo; H. Waterhouse, Fremont; W. Wendland, Minden; C. V. Williams, Curtis; J. A. Woodard, Seward; W. A. Yoder, county superintendent, Omaha.

Grand Island Man Heads Optometrists

Max Agee of Grand Island was chosen president of the Nebraska Association of Optometrists at the closing session of the annual convention Friday afternoon at Hotel Rome. F. C. Calhoun of Pawnee City was elected vice president and H. R. Tillotson of Harvard was made secretary-treasurer.

The opticians voted to keep stricter watch on quackery in optical work in the future, as it was reported that fake eye tinkers have increased in number and activity of late. The name of the organization was changed from "Nebraska State Optical Society" to "Nebraska Association of Optometrists."

H. R. Tillotson, the secretary-treasurer, and D. L. Davis of Superior were recommended by the association for appointment by the governor to the examining board of state optometrists.



At the Theaters. Helen Salinger in Potash and Perlmutter (Brandeis). Maud Le Roy At the Brandeis with Potash and Perlmutter. Mrs. Vernon Castle in Watch Your Step At the Brandeis. Manuel Quiroga At the Orpheum. Ruth Kackley At the Krug.

INOCHIE and Political Love and Law! Strikes and Styles go to make up the story of "Potash & Perlmutter," the three-act comedy which A. H. Woods will present at the Brandeis theater for four nights and a Wednesday matinee, beginning Sunday, February 21. "Potash & Perlmutter," a dramatization of the characters and incidents in Montague Glass' stories, is a comedy in spite of the tremendous heart interest that gives it its chief hold on the playgoing public. Abo Potash and Mawruas Perlmutter are loved for their weaknesses as well as their virtues. Their almost incessant quarrelling is mirthful, while their tenderness, their spirit of self-sacrifice, their patience under grief are heart-touching. Mr. Woods sends "Potash & Perlmutter" to us with a carefully selected company, including Phil White, Harry First, Maurice Barrett, Harry Hanlon, Jane Fearnley, Mildred Davis, Helen Salinger and others.

Briefly, the story of Potash and Perlmutter deals with the trials and tribulations of these two partners of the cloak trade through their generous championing of Boris Andrieff, a young Russian, whom the representatives of the czar are trying to drag back to the country of his birth and to a lifetime in Siberia. They pledged their all to go his bail, and when, through their ignorance of the law, he starts for Canada to gain a respite from the trickery of the Russian representatives and the partners are in danger of forfeiting their business and their homes, the story takes a serious turn. Indeed, but Boris learns through the newspapers of the danger to his benefactors and returns in time to save them from ruin and learn of his complete vindication. There is plenty of romance to add to the charm of the play, for Boris marries Abo's daughter, while Perlmutter marries the designer, Ruth Goldman.

Mrs. Vernon Castle, Frank Tinney, Bernard Cranville, Elizabeth Bejce, Charles Kinn, Harry Kelly, Harry Ellis, along with numerous other stage notables will come to the Brandeis theater for two days beginning Sunday, February 21, with matinee Monday, to perform here for the first time Charles Dillingham's highly successful musical comedy, "Watch Your Step." The "Watch Your Step" story was written by Irving Berlin. It contains half a dozen or more numbers which have more firmly than ever established him in the place of the most popular song writer of today. "That Syncopated Walk," "A One-Horse Town," "Since I Discovered You" and "Lead Me to Love," are features from "Watch Your Step" that are being sung, played and whistled from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. It is the manner in which these numbers are done in "Watch Your Step" that is in a great measure responsible for their present popularity.

"Watch Your Step" has a story of sorts; it was written by Harry H. Smith—but Mrs. Castle, and Tinney, Cranville, Brice and Kinn, and the other featured entertainers have so much that is unique and characteristic to do, and such a comparatively short time in which to do it that there is not much room for a story. But it is there all right, and when Mrs. Castle is not dancing, and Frank Tinney is not talking the audience into his confidence about his summer home or his last trip to Europe, they play parts in it. Seats for the local engagement will go on sale tomorrow morning.

Eva Lang will come with her company from the Denham at Denver to the Boyd at Omaha about the middle of March, opening in "Jerry," a play in which Billie Burke won much praise in New York, and elsewhere. The organization will be known here as the Eva Lang Stock company, but will be part of the all-star circuit. Miss Lang will probably be in Omaha for several weeks before she exchanges with another star.



John Drew At the Brandeis

work of Horace Annesley Vachell, who is said to be the dramatist of the moment not only in this country, but in England. A year ago Mr. Vachell was merely known to a few book lovers and since then he has had no less than four plays successfully produced. Mr. Drew presented the play during his New York season and it was declared to be the most entertaining work that he has had in some time. It is said to be bright, witty, to contain excellent dramatic situations and to conform to the decrees of good manners and good taste. Authors simply love to give Mr. Drew titles in his plays. No one ever thinks of making him an ordinary individual back of the footlights. In this regard Mr. Vachell has followed in the footsteps of those who have gone before him and made Mr. Drew an earl. But you won't hold this against him. This particular earl as Mr. Drew discloses him is a very likable man who has a heart and is very human. The play is in three acts. The supporting company is made up of capable people. The leading woman is that clever actress, Laura Hope Crews.

Almost as soon as Fannie Brice appeared on the variety stage, the newspapers of the eastern cities began calling her "the funniest girl in vaudeville." With the Ziegfeld Follies, where she began her stage career, she quickly established herself as a comedienne of exceptional ability, and from a subordinate role, she quickly passed to the most conspicuous place in the entertainment. Over the Orpheum circuit she has been eminently successful. She comes this week as the chief feature of the bill at the Orpheum. It will be the first visit here of the young Spanish violinist, Manuel Quiroga, who recently made his

debut in this country at the American Hippodrome. He has the reputation of being the possessor of the highest artistic gifts. "Dinkelspiel's Christmas" will be one of the most pleasing playlets scheduled here. Vaudeville's favorite singing comedian, Stuart Barnes, is also a monologist whose stories are no less amusing than his humorous songs. Bert La Mont and his cowboys, a sextet, offer a picturesque act. Page, Hack and Mack are comedy equilibrists who have a pantomime act which has the reputation of being extremely entertaining. The two Tom Boys present the only "bumpst-bumpst" act ever given by women. Their darning, agility and unique comedy antics make them exclusively distinct among their sex. The exclusive showing of motion pictures this week will be a special edition of the Orpheum Travel Weekly, with scenes in Switzerland, streets of Naples and Mont Dore, France, as the particular features.

Burlesque has assumed high ideals during the last few years, and foremost among the producers who have worked for the uplift of that form of entertainment has been Joe Flieg, who brought Frank A. Burt and "The Auto Girls" to the popular Gayety garage for two demonstrations daily during Auto Show week. Burt's comedy is clean-cut and wholesome. He always pleases, but he never offends. He is surrounded by high-grade talent, including the famous Joy-Riding Beauty chorus. The two-act musical farce, "Two Husbands and One Wife" is filled with good laughing material, and it is a challenge to those critics who claim that this form of entertainment is always plotless. Maudie Heath, who is chief in Burt's support, has already won high honors in musical comedy productions. Adels Archer, prima donna, is also a musical comedy graduate. Her last appearance in that form of entertainment being with Raymond Hitchcock in "The Red Widow." Edna Green, Alvin, Pleg and Duffy are others in the cast who will be remembered by burlesque patrons as most competent performers. Special attention will be awarded the world-toured Walter, famous Australian bull-whip cracker, one of their whips being ninety-six feet in length. Their prowess with the bushmen's spears and tomahawks quite borders on the supernatural, the entire act requiring the most consummate precaution. Today's matinee starts at 3 o'clock—just after dinner.

Two of the best bills ever presented in Omaha will be given at the Empress theater the week of February 20. The headliner for the first half is Dorena's Beau Belles, pretty girls with handsome costumes, and the newest songs. Sullivan and Meyers in an oddity of musical comedy, pathos and a wonderful song, "How It All Happened," are favorites. Arnold and Florence in their new skit, "The Man With the Bottle," present a comedy full of fun and wit. A singing and protean novelty is that presented by Jerry and Gretchen O'Meara. The Strange Case of MARY PAGE With Edna Mayo and Henry B. Walthall. Comedy "The Wrong Mr. Wright." Drama "Gold Dust." Selig-Trustee Weekly No. 14. 10c -- ADMISSION -- 20c Phone Douglas 999.

Potash & Perlmutterings

THE PRACTICE OF SAVING. A boy who can save money on \$12 a week, no one need be ashamed of for a son-in-law. PHILOSOPHY OF LOSSES. When the milk is spilt, it's spilt; it makes no difference who left the box open. PARTNERS. The only use some people have for partners is to blame them for everything that goes wrong. CREDIT. He's a millionaire—if he's worth a cent, if he's worth a cent, he's worth a hundred thousand dollars. OPTIMISM. The sun shines for everybody, Mawruas, except the feller in the raincoat business. DETERMINATION. Where there's a will there's a way three ways. RYOGNER. What's done is finished.

and the Suffrage," present a novelty that is well liked. Mabel Florence and company present a comedy sketch, "Firation," svenal with his "Dog With the Human Mind," is an education attraction. For the moving pictures, Edna Mayo and Henry B. Walthall in "The Strange Case of Mary Page" will unfold for the delight of the patrons the fifth episode of the gripping drama, "The Wrong Mr. Wright" and a drama, "Gold Dust," will also be shown. For the last half of the week the problem play, "Hop, the Devil's Brew," will be the center of attraction.

Denman Thompson's "Our New Minister," is announced as the offering at the Krug theater for the week starting matinee today. It is quite generally known that when Mr. Thompson gave this play and "The Old Homestead," to the American stage, he contributed enough for the life of one man. Manager W. W. (Billy) Cole promises patrons another real treat in this comedy-drama, which is pastoral in theme and has an abundance of humor which goes to make up a well balanced production. Stage Director Hillard has worked hard and every member of the company will be seen in interesting roles. Ruth Kackley, character actress, has just joined the North players. She comes here from Topeka, well recommended. She will appear in this week's bill. It may be mentioned that this will be the first time that "Our New Minister" has been offered here at movie prices. The family matinees on Thursday and Saturday are growing in popularity each week. Parties are the rule every Thursday afternoon. The Chicago Ladies' orchestra will have another program for the week. One visit to the Krug will convince the visitor of the merits of the attractions and the abilities of the North players. The policy of politeness continues to prevail.

EMPRESS

TODAY Continuous Vaudeville and Photo Plays. DOREA'S BEAU BELLES Singing, Swaying Musicals. SULLIVAN & MEYERS Refined Comedy Oddity. ARNOLD & FLORENCE In "The Man with the Bottle." JERRY and GRETCHEN O'MEARA Love Makers in Song. The Strange Case of MARY PAGE With Edna Mayo and Henry B. Walthall. Comedy "The Wrong Mr. Wright." Drama "Gold Dust." Selig-Trustee Weekly No. 14. 10c -- ADMISSION -- 20c Phone Douglas 999.

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EVERY NIGHT 8:15 THE BEST OF VAUDEVILLE. MATINEE DAILY 2:15

WEEK STARTING SUN., FEB. 20 FANNIE BRICE Funniest Girl in Vaudeville "Dinkelspiel's Christmas" Stuart Barnes Favorite Singing Comedian Page, Hack and Mack America's Entertainers ORPHEUM TP. VEL WEEKLY Around the World with the Orpheum Circuit's Motion Picture Photographer. Manuel Quiroga The Young Spanish Violinist

REX THEATER 1316 Douglas St. Feb. 20 Sunday Ethel Schutta's Merry Maidens In That Hilarious Comedy "MRS. HASHER'S BOARDING HOUSE" Featuring Charles Neil vs. Jack Schutta in a 3-Act Boxing Contest A Laugh Every Minute. 10c Family Matinee 10c

THE NORTH BROS. Omaha's Best Theatrical Bargain PERPETUAL STOCK CO. Denman Thompson's Great Comedy, "Our New Minister" 10c Family Matinee 10c

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